

Avoid Booking.Com

The historical context is vital to understanding why the Booking.Com action is such inexcusable behaviour. The true history is well known but hidden in a fog of false propaganda from South Cyprus. This nutshell may help those oblivious to the truth.

Prior to 1960, for thousands of years, Cyprus existed only as an island possession of one empire or another. It had been a Turkish possession for 450 years from 1571. It became part of the British empire, formally, in 1925. The Republic of Cyprus came into being in 1960 with a unique constitutional partnership between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities who had, and still have, in international eyes, equal political weight. This constitution ([see here](#)) had the blessing of United Kingdom, as the colonial power and both Greece and Turkey as the respective mother lands of the two communities in Cyprus. (For more information on other vital documents creating the State of the Republic of Cyprus, [see here](#)).

However, it was not long before the Greek Cypriots, encouraged by the Soviet Union, tried to blow up the Cypriot State in an attempt to merge it with Greece. In 1962-3, after disarming the Turkish Cypriot police and security forces, the, by then, Greek Cypriot controlled government (the Turkish Cypriots politicians and officials having been forced out at gun point) began a long campaign of murder, intimidation, theft, and ethnic cleansing of the Turkish Cypriot population. 102 Turkish Cypriot villages were destroyed; tens of thousands were made homeless and forced into penury. This was the "Akritas plan" implemented by the regime of the so called "Black Monk" Makarios. This long running campaign culminated, in 1974, in a revised plan, cooked up between Greece and parties in the Greek Cypriot establishment, copied from the Nazi play book, with the objective of liquidating the entire Turkish Cypriot population - the infamous Iphestos plan. Yes, total extermination of all Turkish Cypriots! Unbelievable but true! These aims were openly admitted by Makarios and also later by the puppet Greek Junta imposed President, Nikos Sampson, whose only regret was that they had failed. *

Mercifully, things went wrong with this plan and this gave time for Turkey, pursuant to its founding treaty obligations, to intervene militarily to prevent a great and obscene slaughter. Some of the atrocities committed by Greek Cypriots against their fellow villagers, especially their wives and daughters, do not bear describing.

Despite what is widely reported, the actions of Turkey have been accepted

by the UN and others as being a proper and legitimate intervention pursuant to its international treaty **obligations**. Little, today, is heard of the true fact that it was Greece, in blatant breach of its equivalent treaty promises, who invaded Cyprus in 1974, deploying tens of thousands of troops, supported by the EOKA B. terrorist organisation. This invasion by Greece was roundly condemned by the temporarily deposed president Makarios in his speech given to the United Nations. To watch his speech click [here](#). The aim of this illegal attack was to end the regime of the Cypriot “Pretender-President”, Makarios and to effect union with Greece.

All the calls of the UN since 1963, for the restoration of the legitimate 1960 constitutional government have been ignored by the Greek Cypriot administration of South Cyprus.

Notwithstanding that the Greek Cypriot community ripped up the 1960 Constitution and, for more than a decade, attempted to eliminate every Turkish Cypriot and, despite being defeated in 1974 in their attempts to do this, which directly lead to an actual physical and political partition of the Island, and despite continuing disobedience to the UN calls for a restoration of the constitutional government, it still claims to be the legitimate government of the whole of Cyprus. There is absolutely no legal basis for this claim and, in reality, its current membership of the UN, the EU and the British Commonwealth in this respect, are all legally, as well as morally, without any foundation. In politics, it seems, that facts, laws and justice have no place.

One reason that the Greek Cypriot administration has been able to get away with this false claim is the extraordinarily spineless behaviour of the British government which has totally failed to fulfil its obligations under the treaties which set up the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. Partly this is due to its fear of the loss of the two sovereign bases retained by it on the island.** However, this is a rather feeble argument because, despite the size of the Cypriot, if there was ever any real risk to these bases from the Greek Cypriots, that would constitute an attack on a NATO country to which Turkey, just 40 miles away, another very well armed NATO country, would immediately and vigorously respond.

Since at least 1962 the Turkish Cypriots have suffered huge personal and financial losses. Actions like those of Booking.Com only increase those losses. Hopefully Booking.Com will realise the wrongfulness of its actions.

* The book “The Genocide Files” by Harry Scott Gibbons is an excellent resource for detailed and unbiased information on the Cyprus problem.

** South Cyprus has a militia of about 100,000 men (many armed by the Greek

Orthodox Church) in addition to its standing forces. Per capita South Cyprus ranks as 8th in the world for assault gun ownership. Its manpower is greater than that of the UK army!